

# FOCUS

Volume 2, Number 2

Published by the Jamaican-Canadian Association

In-Focus, October 30, 1986

## Six receive Eva Smith bursaries from C.C.Y.A

The Caribbean-Canadian Youth Association (CCYA), the youth wing of the J.C.A., in a continuing effort to encourage black students to reach for academic excellence, staged the second Eva Smith Bursary Awards and dinner in October.

Six recipients of this year's bursary received \$500 each to help fund their post secondary education. The six were chosen from 15 applicants.

The bursary is named after North York Board of Education Community School Outreach Worker, Eva Smith, known for her efforts to keep black students in school.

CCYA president, Paul Kafele, says the bursary is named after

Smith because "she's like a mother to us (the youth).

"She's committed to working in the community and she's been doing so for the last 20 years," Kafele said. "We appreciate the work she does and recognize it."

The CCYA raised money for the bursary through various fundraising events throughout the year. This year's recipients are Christine Brown, Fitzroy Anderson, Carleen Banton, Heather Campbell, Brian Duarte and Ann-Jean Lennox.

Kafele noted that while the bursary is "by no means a solution to problems of black students such as streaming" it helps to give a few young people a "lit-



Mrs. Eva Smith (centre) for whom the Eva Smith Bursary is named, poses with five of the six recipients of this year's bursary at the 2nd

Annual Awards and Dinner in October. From left to right are: Ann-Jean Lennox, Brian Duarte, Heather Campbell, Fitzroy Anderson and Christine Brown. Missing from the picture is Carleen Banton who was unable to attend the ceremony.

tle push." This is just one group doing a little to help kids who want to succeed." Kafele added that "it's good to see other groups getting involved."

The CCYA honored five youth groups active in the black community. It paid tribute to the Harriet Tubman Organization, Black Youth Leadership Development (BYLD) Maroon Sports Club, Tropicana Community Service Organization and the Biko-Rodney-Malcolm Coalition.

## Seaga's resignation and cabinet shuffle called a game

BY GRANVILLE NEWELL

The deck of cards that is the Jamaican Cabinet has been reshuffled, but not to the degree that many Jamaicans had been led to expect.

The use of the term deck of cards is not as frivolous as might appear, since the whole exercise seems to be a game. A game that started when Prime Minister Edward Seaga announced to a retreat of his ruling JLP on Sunday Oct. 12 that he would not seek re-election as party leader at the next party conference in November, and that he would step down as prime minister in August next year. The same night the JLP also issued a news release stating that the prime minister would reshuffle his cabinet.

But back to Seaga's intention not to seek re-election as party leader and to step down as prime minister. He stated after the July 29 local government election, in which the JLP was soundly beaten by the PNP, that there would be changes in the party and that the leadership would come under scrutiny.

If it was on this basis alone that his startling announcement was made, perhaps it would not have met with the scepticism it did from a great many Jamaicans. However, it's not the first time Seaga has offered to resign when confidence in his administration was at an ebb. In fact, he has done it three times, and on all occasions seems to have gotten exactly what he wanted—a vote of confidence.

He used the same tactic in 1973 before becoming party leader, and after becoming leader brought the Bustamante Trade Union to heel by another threat to withdraw. Then in 1979, he withdrew for 20 days, again to gain consolidation of his power.

True to form, when Seaga made his most recent announcement, the JLP retreat voted unanimously not to accept his decision, and "reaffirmed its full confidence in the leadership of Edward Seaga and its support for the policies and the programs being pursued by the government under his leadership."

Since then, several JLP affiliate organizations have



ANALYSIS

been "pleading" with the prime minister to reconsider his decision, and JLP supporters gathered at Jamaica House on Oct. 15 in a show of support for Seaga.

He told the demonstrators that his main assignment was to look at the reshuffling of the cabinet before thinking about their pleas for him to continue.

On the night of Oct. 17 he announced the reshuffled cabinet. Earlier that week, the Daily Gleaner noted that five senior ministers, namely, Education Minister Dr. Mavis Gilmour, Health Minister Dr. Ken Baugh, Minis-

ter of Industry and Commerce Douglas Vaz, National Security and Justice Minister Winston Spaulding and the Local Government Minister Neville Lewis, would be axed.

As it turned out, only National Security Minister Winston Spaulding was sacked. Industry and Commerce Minister Douglas Vaz was demoted to a minister without portfolio and his ministry added to that of Foreign Trade and Foreign Affairs, headed by deputy prime minister Hugh Shearer.

The prime minister also announced that newcomer Clifton Stone, a trade unionist, had been appointed Minister of the Public Service. Errol Anderson who had been head of this Ministry was shifted. The justice section of the ministry went to Ossie Harding, previously a minister without portfolio. Harding is also Attorney General.

Dr. Neville Gailimore has replaced Dr. Mavis Gilmour as the Minister of Education. She is now in charge of the expanded Ministry of Social Security and Consumer Affairs.

There were some new appointments affecting junior ministers, but the above constituted the major part of the shuffle.

Interestingly enough when he announced the new cabinet, the prime minister made no reference to his intention to resign.

While Seaga headed to Washington for talks with the International Monetary Fund (IMF), Jamaicans are adopting a wait-and-see attitude on how this game turns out. It's not a new game, merely a variation on an old theme. Is Seaga again holding a winning hand? If he is, can this hand take him to success through the general election which can't be too far off now. Most of those making bets are not confident about his hand, figuring that the results of July's local government election were a clear sign that Jamaicans want a change.

*Granville Newell is a journalist who has worked extensively in radio and on newspapers in Jamaica and the Eastern Caribbean.*

J.C.A.  
Quarterly  
Meeting

December 7, 2 p.m.  
J.C.A. Centre, 2nd Floor

air Jamaica

We give you more

1-800-523-5585



# FOCUS

*In-Focus* is published by the Membership Committee of The Jamaican-Canadian Association  
1621 Dupont St.  
Toronto, Ontario  
Telephone: (416) 535-4476  
Editorial: Grace Cameron and Paul Kafele  
Layout and design: Grace Cameron

## Sighting of 2 black construction workers shatters black out

By Daniel Braithwaite

With so much construction work being done on the streets of Metro Toronto, I continue to see no black workers on the job. This phenomenon was shattered recently when I saw two black construction workers at different times and different places close to where I live.

It was a pleasure to see them. I approached the first one immediately and a conversation ensued. He told me he was Jamaican and that he picked up a bit of Italian because all his workmates were Italian. The second black construction worker that I saw was willing to give me an informal interview and agreed to the next day on his lunch hour.

It was a nice Aug. day that we met, and after the usual greetings and exchange of names, his being

Verril Taylor, I did not hesitate to ask him the pivotal question that was uppermost in my mind—how did he obtain the job? Verril told me that he came to Canada from St. Elizabeth, Jamaica in 1975. Verril operated his own construction company back in Jamaica. He told me that he has an excellent rapport with his co-workers and occasionally acts as foreman—but without the pay.

In the winter Verril goes home to Jamaica where he is building a home in St. Elizabeth. He hopes someday to have his own construction company in Canada. On departing I thanked him for his time and wished him luck. I left Verril with a J.C.A. membership form and an In-Focus newspaper. It was indeed a very interesting and refreshing chat. We are still breaking new ground in every field!



Verril Taylor, one of only two black construction workers JCA member Daniel Braithwaite has encountered.

## From the President's Desk



ROY WILLIAMS

After a much too long delay I am back in communication with you. The issues of In-Focus have been too few and far between. This is due to the fact that our limited budget has not enabled us to produce the paper as often as we would like. We have identified this as a very serious problem.

Many of you have expressed your desire for more frequent communication. We shall try to do something to rectify this. We will try to cut the costs of producing the paper and try in 1987 to make sure the paper comes out at least once per month. We will have to make the necessary budget arrangements to enable this to happen.

**Recent Events at the Centre**  
We have had some significant events at the Centre lately. Some of them are: Dinner and Awards Night, The JCA Oldtimers Reunion Dinner and Dance, the Credit Union Dinner and Dance and the Seniors Dinner. All of these events were well attended and were very successful. I wish to thank all the parties who were instrumental in making each event the success that it was. I am especially pleased with the efforts of the CCYA (the Youth Wing of the J.C.A.) for making the reality of the award of six bursaries to some deserving young people presently attending Canadian universities. All of these in the name of that tireless worker for youth—Eva Smith. We heartily endorse this initiative and look forward to next year when there will be as many recipients of much larger.

awards. This is a very worthy community effort. Please support it with your dollars.

The J.C.A. Oldtimers Reunion was a beautiful affair. Thanks to the efforts of Alton Teller and his very hard working committee we were able to see some folks that we hadn't seen for quite some time. We hope now that we have rediscovered them and they us, we will now stay together for good.

The Seniors' Dance was great. The vitality of many of our older citizens was simply a joy to behold. The idea of establishing a seniors' group as an entity within the association was discussed and generally approved. We have agreed to reconvene on Saturday, Nov. 1, at 3 pm to work out the details for the formation of this group. This promises to be quite an exciting event.

**Celebrity Brunch with Alvin Curling**  
Those of you who attended our last Celebrity Brunch with The Hon. Lincoln Alexander, Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario will remember how beautiful, warm and exhilarating an occasion it was. The Lieutenant-Governor gave us an inspiring message and we all felt so good that we are finally making great strides in this province and in this country.

You will have another opportunity to dine with another celebrity on Nov. 23 when our guest will be the Hon. Alvin Curling, Minister of Housing. These are

Continued on page 8

## Seniors dinner well attended

By Wesley Grant

The J.C.A. held its 4th annual Seniors Dinner on Sunday, October 19 at the J.C.A. Centre. Once again, the dinner was well attended by seniors far and wide, who sat down to a very delectable meal. One pleasant highlight of the evening was the recognition of all those celebrating birthdays in October. Amongst the celebrants was Mrs. Thompson (our president's mother).

The main focus of the dinner was the formation of a Senior's

Group within J.C.A. The formative stages of the development of the group was discussed as a steering committee had previously been struck. This committee contacted interested seniors, devised a tentative constitution, and started the process of identifying some of the real concerns of black senior citizens.

The response of the seniors to the group proposal was overwhelmingly positive. The main concern was that the group should try to arrange resources and facilities

around the following areas:

- Recreational activities
- Social activities
- Health information
- Pension, retirement & investment information and workshops
- General information and opportunities for Senior Citizens.

The group will meet once a month at the J.C.A. The first meeting will be on Saturday, Nov. 1 at 3 pm. We look forward to seeing as many of you there as possible.

## Support for JCA activities on the rise

N.L. BAILEY  
CHAIRMAN  
SOCIAL COMMITTEE

There is a sense of satisfaction that I feel, that led me to believe that we at the JCA have been living up to the general philosophy that the Jamaican-Canadian displays in a large measure, the positive attributes of Jamaicans and Canadians, a sense of openness, of brotherhood, of maturity, and of stability.

The gradual increase in support for the things we have done during the past months attests to that. The many different faces we saw visiting the centre during this summer leading up to now and the repeat visits of so many is certainly heart warming.

We are grateful for the varied feedback we had via the individuals, the press as well as the constructive criticisms, since we know that we are by no means perfect. We encourage you to continue support in those many different ways.

Our functions are planned to bring many people together for Social interaction, entertainment, cultural exchanges, talent exposure, exposure of our achievers in the community and at the same time generate much needed funds to assist in the upkeep of the centre. All of the above manifested themselves in the past functions—namely—the week long Caravan, the family picnic, the Montreal outing, the Jamaica's Independence and JCA's anniversary weekend celebrations, the Seniors' Dinner and our Sunday Celebrity Brunches.

We are approaching the end of the year, and I would like to draw your attention to the coming activities, and at the same time hope you will support them.

(1) On Sunday November 23, 1986, the Association is sponsoring a brunch with the Hon. Alvin Curling M.P.P.—Scarborough North, and Ontario Minister of Housing—starting at 12:30 pm. Although Mr. Curling has visited us on several occasions since we acquired our centre, the fact that he has identified with the association for many years before becoming a minister, like others, we need to give him a special day at the centre. We are reaffirming our faith in him as a leader and encouraging him to carry on the good work. To attend, an advance donation of \$15.00 per person is requested—no tickets available at the door.

(2) Our annual children's Christmas party will be held on Sunday Dec. 21, at 2 pm. While the emphasis is always placed on the children we hope that the parents will be there with them, making it a real family day. This function has always been compliments of the J.C.A. We will however appreciate donations of cash, refreshments and toys from members able and willing to do so.

## JCA looking for moments

The J.C.A. is interested in any information—Photographs, Stories, etc., about the organization that members are willing to share. This would go towards the compilation of a special J.C.A. Silver Anniversary Magazine.

Please call the office at 535-4476. Any help would be appreciated.

## B.C. RENOVATIONS

For all kinds of renovations:

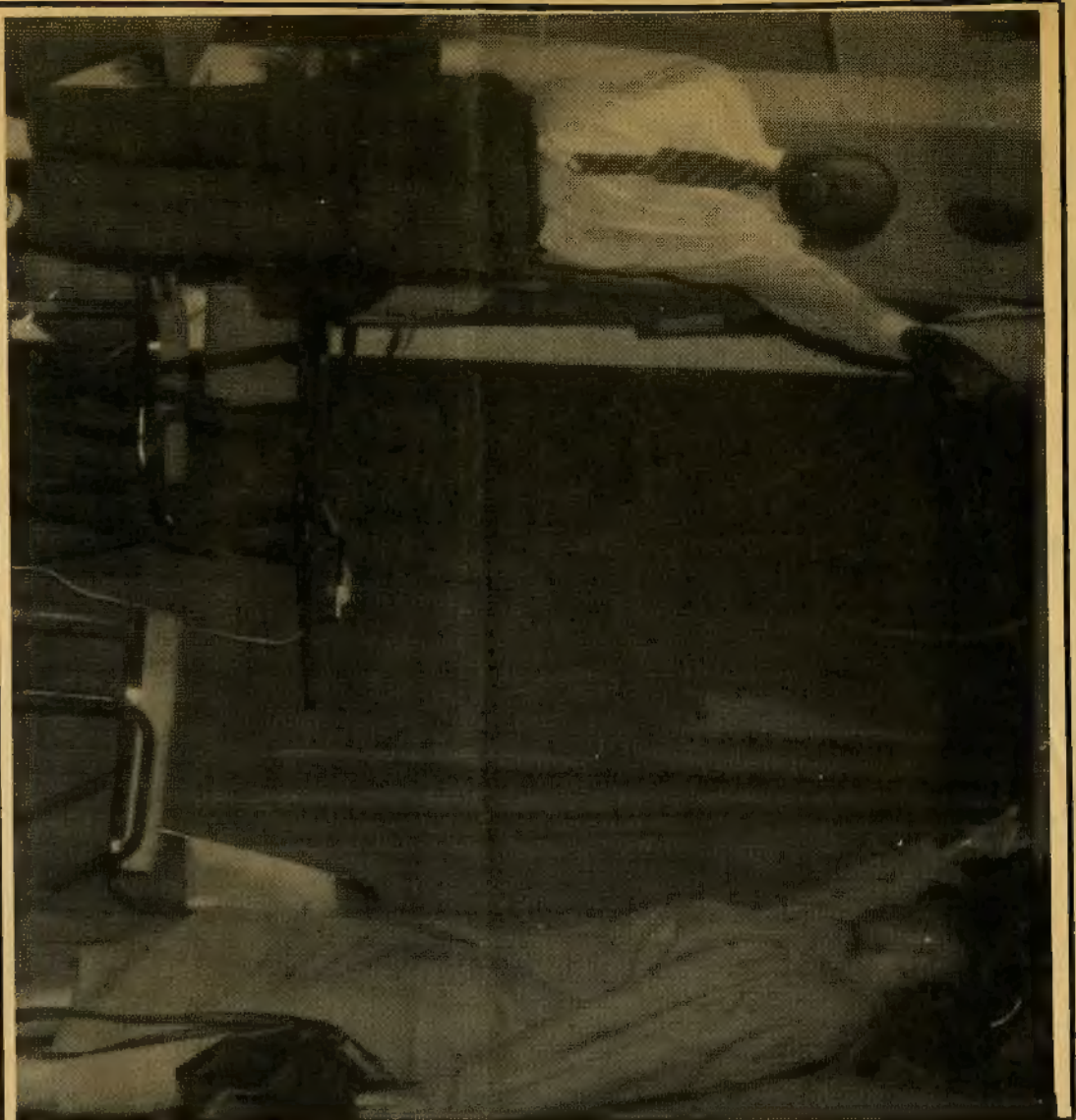
- Dry Wall
- Painting
- Plumbing
- Carpentry
- General Contracting

Call Byron Carter

Metro Lic. B-6309

293-2882





C.C.Y.A. President Paul Kafele and C.C.Y.A. Georgia Steele performed in an hilarious skit at the 24th anniversary celebration of

the JCA and Jamaica's 24th year of independence.

## Conference focused on black inmates

By Paul Kafele

A York University conference was told that the vicious violence and racism perpetrated on black inmates has to be accounted for. Speaking at a conference on Oct. 9 and 10 entitled *Understand My Flight—Pros and Cons of Blacks in the Criminal Justice System*, Burnley (Rocky) Jones noted that "prison is a reflection of what our society is about in general, and that is racism."

Jones is Executive Director of Real Opportunities for Prisoner Employment (ROPE), in Halifax, Nova Scotia. ROPE helps prisoners to acquire life and employment skills for use in prison and on release. It also acts as a supportive counselling and advisory network for inmates.

In a long-ranging speech that examined the attitudes of the courts, the penal system and the community towards blacks, Jones, painted a bleak picture of "what it means to be black in this society."

In Nova Scotia most black youngsters whose family has been on welfare for three generations, come from a depressed neighborhood and usually have simple parents and a future that has, in most cases, "been already plotted."

According to Jones, the young black person, in trying to fulfill the image of success that society shows him—material acquisition—goes about it the only way he knows how. With no education, job or proper life-skills he often times ends up breaking the law. The cycle therefore continues.

The courts have no built-in mechanism for cultural sensitivity and very few black judges. Consequently, laws made by a society Jones sees as being racist are interpreted by a court system that is not particularly favor-

able to blacks who come before it.

Jones painted a grim picture of prison and its realities for black inmates. Because of their small numbers in comparison to general white prison population, the black inmate has few recourses when confronted by rape, violence and racism.

"One has to understand that prison is a place where violence is the norm. Many violent criminals are together in a restricted area. Something has to give and usually blacks end up getting the rawest deal," according to Jones. The black inmates cannot negotiate because he has no power

Continued on page 7

## JCA hosts brunch with Curling

The Jamaican-Canadian Association will be organizing a Brunch with Ontario Housing Minister The Honorable Alvin Curling. The Brunch will be held on Sunday, November 23, 12:30 p.m. at the JCA Centre, 1621 Dupont Street.

Curling, a long-time JCA member, will have an opportunity to mingle and talk with members of the black community. The brunch will be a relaxed, informal affair with the minister who is most comfortable in this setting. Admission is \$15 per person. No tickets will be sold at the door. For more information, please contact the JCA office at 535-4476.



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM  
JAMAICAN-CANADIAN ASSOCIATION  
P.O. Box 532, Terminal "A" Toronto

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ Male ☐ Female ☐  
Surname First Name Married ☐ Single ☐

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
Number Street City  
Province Postal Code

Telephone Numbers: Work \_\_\_\_\_ Home \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation Vocation or Profession \_\_\_\_\_

No. of Children and Ages if You have a Family \_\_\_\_\_

Are You Interested in Committee Work? \_\_\_\_\_ specify which Committee  
WHAT ARE YOUR SPECIAL INTERESTS? \_\_\_\_\_

## Curling's independence speech evokes pride

By Grace Cameron

With greetings pouring in from various levels of the Canadian and Jamaican governments, and an emotional, patriotic speech from Ontario Housing Minister Alvin Curling, the Jamaican-Canadian Association (JCA) celebrated its 24th anniversary and the 24th independence of Jamaica with a weekend-long party.

The first night of celebration and most of the speech making took place Friday, Aug. 8 with a splashy dinner and cultural show held at the centre. The next night's celebration took the form of a musical show and dance billed especially for the younger set or the young at heart. Dancing to the music of the Jay Douglas Band, Cynthia Delfina, Jackie James and Karen St. Louis, lasted until the wee hours of Sunday morning.

On the opening night the association received greetings and congratulations from the federal government, brought by the Minister of State for Privatization, Barbara McDougall, from the government of Ontario and from the Jamaican government through High Commissioner Leslie Wilson.

Awards for meritorious service to the black community were presented to Mrs. Mae Waace, chairperson of the North York Board of Education, Arnold Augustine, publisher and owner of *Share* newspaper, Oswald Murray, Consul General of Jamaica and world class sprinter Ben Johnson.

Curling's speech based on Jamaica's motto, "Out of many one people," evoked an emotional response from the packed auditorium. He captured the pride, imagination and emotions of the audience as he hammered home the point that "this small island has had an immeasurable impact on the rest of the world."

Jamaica has nurtured men and women who are moving to the forefront of society, he told

the audience, noting that there are 75,000 first and second generation Jamaicans living in Ontario.

"Ontario is fortunate to have those 75,000," he added. "Just look at the Jamaican-Canadians representing Canada at the Commonwealth Games. And it's not limited to sports. There are doctors, lawyers and teachers. Just think of the impact we're making on this young country."

Curling, himself a Jamaican-Canadian, called Jamaicans heirs of the spirit, pride and independence bred from the heart of a race that survived despite being stripped of its freedom.

It's this legacy and the knowledge of the strength of people who survived and triumphed that drive Jamaicans to excel, the minister noted. He told the audience that "we have the responsibility to those who come after us and to our young people to set a good example... and it's up to the ones who established themselves to help others who are struggling."

He added: "Jamaica taught us there's not anything people working together can't achieve. Out of many one people, it's Jamaica's motto and our dream in Ontario to make this happen."

The evening ended with an hilarious play written and performed by the Caribbean-Canadian Youth Association (CCYA), the youth wing of the JCA.

## Send greetings via In-Focus

Send Christmas Greetings to your loved ones and those you admire via In-Focus' Special Christmas Edition. Cost is only \$5 for 25 words and 25 cents for each additional word. Call the office (535-4476) now. Avoid disappointment! Deadline for submission is Nov. 21.



SPEED FREIGHT  
FORWARDING CO.  
A Division of Charlewin Enterprises Ltd.

70 Bellfield Rd., Unit 18, Rexdale, Ont. M9W 1G3

World Wide Shippers  
by Air and Sea

NEVILLE G. WALTERS  
Vice President  
Operations

Telephone (416) 243-2224  
Res. 431-5500

## The Jamaican-Canadian (Toronto) Credit Union

for

## COMPETITIVE LENDING

## RATES

Join ... Save ... BORROW

Call the JCA office, 535-4476, for more information





Toronto Police Commission Chairman, Clare Westcott (fifth from left) surrounded by new recruits is a founding

## Police chairman plays Santa to the Caribbean for years

By Gloria Rizzuti

Looking around his Jarvis Street office one couldn't help but notice that four exquisite photographs of various sunsets hanging in the corner. Truly the work of a professional.

One could easily guess he's also a skier by the several pictures which sit directly below the sunset photographs. Across from that, atop a bookshelf, sits another series of pictures of him posing with people such as Gerald Ford, Raymond Burr and a Chinese dignitary. On that same shelf sits another photograph of him in the 1940s working as a lineman for Ontario Hydro.

"I'm the only protestant to receive an award from the Pope," he says jokingly as he proudly points to a large award which hangs opposite a number of other awards from Ryerson Polytechnical Institute.

This friendly and talkative 62-year old has helped many people and has accomplished more than most people ever could in one lifetime. Clare Westcott, Metropolitan Toronto Police Commission Chairman, was awarded the Bene Merenti Medal of Good Merit by Pope John Paul II in January, 1981 for his many years of assistance to Missions in the Caribbean. He is one of the few protestants in the world to receive such an honour.

### *The only Protestant to receive an award from the Pope.*

Westcott, who became Metro Police Commission Chairman in April, last year, is a founding member of the Ontario Government Caribbean Aid Program started in 1963-64, and was asked by the Peterson Government to continue acting as co-ordinator of the program. The Board of Commissioners of Police agreed to let him take the position, which "only requires spending a lot of time on the phone," Westcott said.

"We've never sought out any publicity." He explains because of it being a government program there's a risk with people who don't understand what living in the Caribbean is all about and why the Ontario Government is assisting. Westcott sums it up by recalling what a Jamaican woman once said to him: "It's tough to be a woman in Jamaica."

Over the years shipments of food, hospital equipment, school and educational furniture and materials; and medical supplies—just to name a few—have been sent to the Caribbean. Supplies of tons of blankets, clothing and food were sent to Jamaica this year to help victims of the disastrous floods.

member of the Caribbean Aid Program. The program has sent food, hospital equipment and educational materials to

contacted the Minister of Defence in hope the aircrafts could be used to transport goods. The first flight was made to Jamaica with a shipment of desks.

The project, which only assists Caribbean Commonwealth countries, evolved from sending desks, hospital surplus and continued to grow.

### *Bought back up generator for \$1*

"All of this stuff is surplus to our needs," explains Westcott. He reasons if it's cheap enough to ship goods down to countries in need, why not do it.

The Ontario Government has been very supportive of the program which has succeeded over the years because of the interest and support of Prime Minister Trudeau, Prime Minister Mulroney, Premier Davis and Premier David Peterson, Westcott said.

Many projects have developed from the program, some of which have given Ontario students an opportunity to learn about West Indian cultures and at the same time to help them.

School to School, one such project, involved twinning classes in Ontario with classes in the Caribbean. Students would exchange letters and poetry and Ontario students would organize fundraising events for their twin classes. The twinning of classes as opposed to schools was chosen because of the contrast in school sizes, Westcott said. Some teachers involved in School to School raised enough money to bring their students to visit their twin class in Jamaica where they stayed with the families.

"Once they get down there and see it, it's the greatest thing." It gives Ontario students an opportunity to realize what they take for granted which often "brings them to shame," Westcott said.

Westcott was also responsible for organizing a walk-a-thon about 16 years ago at his hometown high school in Seaford, Ontario which raised \$1,200 for a school in Seaford, Jamaica.

Another fundraising project started more than 10 years ago to raise money to build a school in St. Vincent, where a volcano eruption occurred, raised \$60,000 by students who were asked to buy a brick for a dime. Other projects have included collecting eye glasses, hearing aids and school supplies.

Another similar program of twinning hospitals was formed with the Ontario Hospital Association. Westcott is responsible for supplying a hospital in Jamaica with a back-up generator which he purchased for one dollar. He is also responsible for shipping down an entire 200-bed hospital.

Few people are aware of Westcott's involvement in the Caribbean Aid Program which he describes as being "a lot of fun." The Ontario Government has surplus supplies which are unusable by its standards. One example is ambulances.

"They are worn out by our standards," he explains.

the Caribbean over the past 20 years.

"There is no one to sell them to because they are the only ones in the business. With a few minor repairs they are usable in the Caribbean."

On Sept. 18 this year an aircraft containing six tons of medical supplies was sent to Montego Bay, and recently 100 school desks and 200 pounds of school work books were sent to Grenada, the first shipment sent there in more than 10 years. Other shipments to the Caribbean have included ambulances and pick-up trucks, tons of clothing, kitchen and hospital equipment, rehabilitation, tools and sports equipment, plus medical and dental supplies. Westcott is also responsible for helping to collect and ship tons of food to Jamaica in May after an appeal made to Premier Peterson by Jamaican Prime Minister Edward Seaga.

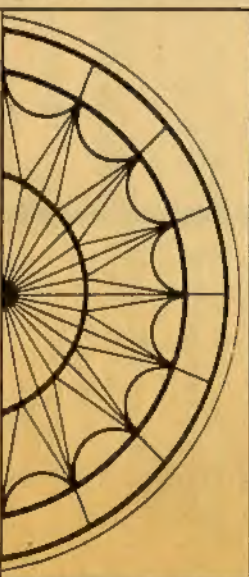
Westcott received his elementary and high school education in Seaford, Ontario where he was born in 1924. He attended Central Technical School in Toronto and Ryerson Polytechnical Institute where he studied journalism

Continued on page 7

## ANNOUNCEMENT



Darrell Kent, president of Darrell Kent Real Estate Co. Ltd. is pleased to announce that Mr. Paul Mellad has joined our professional sales staff at our 902 Bathurst Street office. Paul is always willing and able to serve your housing Real Estate needs and can be contacted at 534-6381 (office), or 536-1675 (home).



DARRELL KENT REAL ESTATE LTD.  
REALTOR



# Caribbean Youth Program—caring through action

By Paul Kafke

How can a Black Human Services Organization continually meet the needs of a community that is growing and is becoming increasingly multidimensional? "With much perseverance and commitment," according to Kersley Peters, Co-ordinator of the Caribbean Youth Program (CYP).

Sponsored by the JCA, CYP is located in the midst of the Jane-Finch community. Despite the sometimes stressful environment of the Jane-Finch corridor, the staff at CYP approaches its work with a determined and positive frame of mind. "It gives you a good feeling working with kids and seeing them improve their outlook and their personal situation," says Vidal Regisford, who is one of the community workers with the program. "Human service delivery always has that capacity."

The CYP was established in 1984 to provide services to black youth between the ages of 12 and 24 and who live in the Jane-Finch area. Some of the concerns of the youth identified include:

- Problems of adjustment and acculturation
- Parental conflicts
- Housing
- Employment
- Problems with authority structures, i.e. police and school
- Substance abuse e.g. marijuana
- Teenage pregnancy

According to Peters CYP tries to be as efficient and productive in addressing as many of these problem areas as possible. He maintains that most young people "just need positive role models and a place they can turn to if they are having particular difficulties."

He sees CYP as making great strides in becoming that kind of outfit. CYP offers a number of programs toward that end such as leadership training and social development, peer support group counselling, computer literacy, fitness and jazz classes and the annual summer program. CYP has a housing registry to assist those looking for long-term accommodation.

CYP social worker Joyce Ofori is especially concerned about leadership in the community and the young people who might have it.

"There are quite a few youngsters who will do quite well and be very responsible if only given an opportunity," she said. The leadership training and social development program aims to do that.

Young people help to plan and organize activities which include basketball, volleyball and jazzercise classes at Oakdale Junior High School on Wednesday evenings. Participants are usually students, probation clients, past participants in CYP's summer program, or young people who are interested in assuming responsibility. There is a group discussion on leadership readiness and dealing with specific crisis situations. According to Peters, the program has gotten off to an excellent start. The average attendance is 60 per session.

CYP recognizes some of the problems encountered within the school system by black youth. Their approach is three-pronged. The first approach is tutoring classes (under the Language Development Program) on Saturday mornings at the office. This program helps those in special education and those who might only need remedial help in language literacy, numeracy skills, cultural re-inforcement and communication. The sessions are intensive and supervised by two qualified teachers: Marilyn Chang and Pamela Holder.

The second prong is the Peer Support Group that involves about 10 junior high schools in the area. Most of the schools have a large percentage of black students.

Teachers, school outreach workers, parents or guidance counsellors can identify or recommend students having adjustment problems in the school setting. CYP then organizes sessions with 10 students at a time from each school. These sessions include discussion dealing with issues of concern to the youngsters. Topics like authority figures, sexuality, attitude towards school, relationship with family and role playing are tackled.

By being in a group setting where they are comfortable, and interacting with black youth in their age range, the students "begin to confront some of the critical issues that



C.Y.P. co-ordinator Kersley Peters serves up hot dogs for youngsters in summer program.

sessions. Each group has 10 sessions with the staff and individual follow-up is done if requested. The students are constantly evaluated and Peters sees a generally encouraging result at the end of the term.

The third area of educational concentration is the computer program. Run out of Jane Junior High School, this program will help young students to learn the basic language of the computer and to run some programs.

***"It gives you a good feeling working with kids and seeing them improve their outlook and personal situation."***

"Computer literacy is essential for our young people in this increasingly technological world," notes Peters, "and they will be left behind if we don't start the process early."

CYP is still looking for a capable older student to organize the timetable and monitor the use of the computers which are shared by other community groups and the school.

The Jane-Finch outfit also runs health and fitness classes out of Driftwood Community Centre twice a week. Regisford organizes the classes for older youth. They discuss nutrition, health and hygiene as well as lifting weights and taking part in exercise classes. Regisford believes this program is also helpful "keeping some of the young people off the streets" while getting them to participate in enjoyable, beneficial activities.

impact on their relationships at school and at home," according to Peters. CYP staff lead and facilitate these "Our summer program has always been one of our strongest and most productive activity," states Peters. "In fact, this past summer we employed 14 counsellors and had a record number of kids."

The program is usually run from Oakdale Junior High and is one of the most effective and highly-regarded summer activity alternatives in the Jane-Finch community. Like a proud father, Peters speaks of the young people who have passed through the program, matured, and gone on to bigger things.

"The program really helps them to interact and learn in a positive, supportive environment." Along with some academic upgrading, the summer program also offers arts and crafts, recreation and various cultural activities.

CYP has good relationship with other mainstream agencies like the Ministry of Community and Social Services, North York Inter-Agency Council, Downsview West Action Committee, Probation and Parole, and other community agencies. Because of the work they do, they also liaise extensively with counsellors, teachers, parents, other community workers and groups and other programs run in the area.

The community profile is important because "it allows us to work closely with other groups and at the same time to publicize and promote the work we do," says Peters. He asserts that the life-blood of any community organization "is the community." So it is imperative that CYP stays in touch with the community.

The staff envisions a future of continuous growth for the program. CYP has to continue its efforts to prepare a broad framework of operations, to look at long-range plans and projections and to look at some potentially permanent resources for responding to the community. Both the JCA and CYP see this process as being critical. So the next time you hear someone talking about Jane-Finch and "what we need to do for our kids," point them to CYP. Show them a group that is making a difference because it cares.

***The offices of the Caribbean Youth Program are located at 2885 Jane Street, Suite 12a. The telephone numbers are 636-8367 and 636-8390.***

## WHEREABOUTS UNKNOWN

Mr. Barrington Forbes  
Arrived in Canada: August 1977  
Please contact his mother with any information.

Name: Ms Violet Wheate  
Address: 12 Upper Elleston Road  
Passmore Town  
Kingston 16  
Jamaica, West Indies

## HALLOWEEN WITCHES' BREW

A Children's Concert

Spend a fun-filled afternoon at the J.C.A. Centre (2nd Floor)  
ENTERTAINMENT: Avril Spence and Lucy Lafontaine on Flute

- Storytelling
- Face-Painting
- Games
- Singing
- Prizes for best costumes

ADULTS — \$5, Children — \$5, \$3 (2 or more)

DATE: Saturday, November 1st 3 pm.

For more information contact the office at 535-4476 or Avril Spence at 783-9701. All ages are welcome!

## REXDALE WOMEN'S CENTRE

**MAKING CHANGES COURSE**—A job search skills is being offered by the Rexdale Women's Centre. You will examine your skills, learn to write a resume, practise job interviews, get information on training and retraining programs, practise English and build self-confidence. The course will be held on Oct. 28, 29, and Nov. 4 & 5 at the Albion Community Centre, 1485 Albion Road (at Kipling). The course is free and free child-care is provided. For more information and registration contact the Centre at 745-0062.

Rexdale Women's Centre is offering a short course on Women's Health. Topics will include: the health-care system, patients rights, pre-menstrual syndrome, the reproductive system, and menopause. The course will be held on Tuesday October 28 at Rexdale United Church (Islington and Eimhurst). There is no cost and childcare is free. For registration and more information contact the Centre at 745-0062.



# So you think you're a good listener—read on

An important part of effective communication is learning to listen and listen well.

## Do You Think You Are A Good Listener?

If you do, answer the following questions.

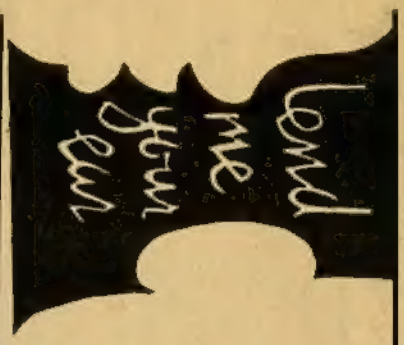
- Do You**
- Listen for facts when someone is speaking?
  - Write down things to remember as you are listening to what is being said?
  - Have the insight to know by a person's delivery and appearance that he/she won't have anything worthwhile to say?

• Try to get the question straightened out immediately when you are puzzled or annoyed at what someone says—either in your own mind or by asking the speaker?

If you have answered yes to any of the above questions **YOU DON'T KNOW HOW TO LISTEN.**

The truth of the matter is this: "Immediately after the average person has listened to someone talk he remembers only about half of what he has heard." Most of us do not know how to listen well. What is even more critical is that we spend 70-80 per cent of our day in communicative activities such as reading, writing, talking, and listening. Nine per cent of that time is spent writing, 16 per cent reading and 30 per cent talking and 45 per cent listening.

Although surveys indicate we spend almost three times as much time listening as reading—the other important means by which we receive information—little attention is given to training people how to listen. On the average, reading usually receives 52 per cent of the emphasis in classroom instruction and listening a meagre 8 per cent.



CHERYL A. CHASE

Yet, practical experience has shown that "a good listener is a better friend, a more thoughtful spouse and a more efficient worker." When a person knows that he has a good listener to talk to he'll share his thoughts more fully.

Here are a few habits to avoid and techniques to practice that will make you one of the most sought after persons in the world.

### AVOID!

1. MENTAL EXCURSIONS. We hear 4 times faster than the average person speaks.
2. "I GET THE FACTS" LISTENING. It's hard to memorize facts and formulate ideas at the same time.
3. EMOTIONAL DEAF SPOTS. All of us, irrationally, have some words that make us break out in cold sweat. If you are reacting emotionally to what is being said it makes it difficult to listen effectively.
4. SUPERSENSITIVE LISTENING. Like me, if you've developed deep seated opinions or prejudices a person talking to you may unwittingly stamp verbally on your mental toes. Then, PAIN,

- PLANNED REBUTTAL, INTERRUPTION you miss the real point.
5. DISMISSING A SUBJECT AS UNINTERESTING. It is hard to remain objective. All of us close our minds to certain topics if they are difficult to understand or uninteresting. But... This is where I have problems...
  6. CRITICIZING A SPEAKER'S DELIVERY AND APPEARANCE.
  7. PRETENDING ATTENTION. Making yourself comfy. Turning glassy eyes to speaker. Pretending to listen.

- YOUR ADVANTAGE.**
1. Anticipate Summarize
  2. Listen for main ideas
  3. Weigh one fact against the other
  4. Try to recognize relationships between the facts
  5. Go after the central idea
  6. ANALYZE YOUR HANG UPS.
  7. Watch your reactions to words you react irrationally to.
  8. Identify the ones that bother you.
  9. Analyze them and find out why they upset you.
  10. USE SELF CONTROL
  11. Always listen a person out
  12. Stop and think for a while
  13. Then plan your rebuttal
  14. 5. SEIZE FOR YOURSELF UNIQUE IDEAS. Some subjects may be uninteresting to you but even the most boring topic has some idea or new knowledge to offer. Take some of it for yourself.
  15. 6. RESPECT THE HUMANITY OF OTHERS
  16. 7. STOP THE PRETENSE. Stop the pretense and really listen.
  17. 8. CONCENTRATE
  18. Keep your mind busy with what the speaker is saying.
  19. A good listener fights distractions and focuses his/her attention.
  20. See DO #2.
  21. 9. LISTEN FIRST, WRITE AFTER
  22. Drop the pencil

**WANTED: One person who knows how to listen. This person will: give me an opportunity to share my dreams and ideas, will listen to my frustrations without judging me, will give me objective feedback, must have active listening skills and must definitely have POSITIVE SELF ESTEEM and lots of PRACTICE MAKING OTHERS FEEL SPECIAL.**

**CALL IMMEDIATELY Ask For: Need a Friend. 765-4321.**

- DO**
1. USE THOUGHT SPEED TO

- Listen for main points/ideas
- If you feel something needs to be

written down, do so afterward.

10. ACTIVELY LISTEN

Appropriately become involved in the conversation by using nods—in the right place—Appropriate phrases of empathy, agreement... understanding etc. and when necessary physical contact. If you have really been listening this is easy to do without it feeling like an exercise in pretense. This is not the same as AVOID #7.

Now being a good listener is something that takes a lot of practice as well as sincere evaluation of your abilities. It's said but most of us come from educational backgrounds where little emphasis is put on developing listening skills. Therefore, we must take the initiative.

All of us can become better listeners. This article has outlined a few of the bad habits to avoid and has also given some guidelines that will help you to develop better listening skills. But, they will be of no use to you unless you practice good listening.

The ability to concentrate is vital to becoming a good listener. When you remember, choose something to listen to, whether it's a voice, an album, a machine or silence. Just pick something. PUT EVERYTHING OUT OF YOUR MIND—AND CONCENTRATE.

If you'd like to enhance your listening skills and would like a copy of the article by Dr. Ralph Nichols and Leonard Stephens call 535-4476 or write:

JCA  
"Lend Me Your Ear"  
Jamaica-Canadian Centre  
1621 Lansdowne Ave  
M6P 3S8

## Central Hospital serves up Caribbean and ethnic foods

Hospital food has never had much zing. But Central Hospital, where multicultural health care is the specialty, serves up Caribbean and other ethnic foods along with the traditional hospital fare.

The 176-bed hospital, tucked away on Sherbourne Street across from Allan Gardens is one of the city's best kept secrets.

Founded 30 years ago by Hungarian brothers Drs. Paul and John Rekal, Central has been a pioneer in multilingual and multicultural health care in Canada. It's recognized as a national leader in this field, and its method of caring for people from a wide range of backgrounds are now widely used across the country.

The vast communication problem between health care professionals and thousands of new Canadians which the Rekal brothers recognized in the late 1950s, has become more crucial in the face of Toronto's rapidly expanding ethnic community.

The city's Anglo-Saxon community is now outnumbered by the various ethnic groups, most of which do not have English as a mother tongue. This is reflected in Central Hospital's statistics, where 70 per cent of the patients were born outside Canada, and of these, 20 per cent require language assistance.

The hospital which has developed a loyal following in the ethnic community gets most of its patients by word of mouth and

referrals from agencies and doctors. It boasts of a staff that can communicate in more than 35 languages, at no additional cost.

"We do not hire professional translators," explains Teresa Suchocka, Director of Social Services. "When we hire staff, another language is always an asset."

Suchocka notes that there are Jamaicans and West Indians on staff who can help people from the Caribbean to communicate more effectively. The system works, she says, because staff members like the Spanish interpreter who is also the bookkeeper, handles procedures such as admitting patients, filling out questionnaires and helping in the daily communication between patients and other staff members.

The hospital goes even further to ensure proper communication and care however. Three times a week, folders are compiled in various languages and given to the interpreters who visit patients to make inquiries on any questions the patients may have.

The most frequently used languages at the hospital are Spanish, Portuguese, Italian, Greek, Cantonese and Hungarian, Suchocka says. The hospital has now added Vietnamese because "we're now seeing a number of Vietnamese patients."

Suchocka believes that services such as language assistance and special diets geared to some ethnic groups are important, and a



These women representing the Caribbean take part in the hospital's multicultural show and sale.

tremendous help to the approximately 200,000 in-patients treated since its opening, and the 35,000 out-patients seen annually at the clinic.

Other staff members and patients believe there is a warmth and friendliness that is radiated from this institution because of its dedication to overcome cultural barriers.

Says Benita Ho, a staff member: "Even the walls radiate this

warmth. The walls are even bright and cheerful, making people feel happier despite being in a hospital."

This fall, the little hospital, once housed in cramped quarters will add a \$3½ million nursing hospital will team up with its multi-specialty clinic to become the foremost health care centre for the city's ethnic community. Like the hospital, the home which has 82 nursing home beds and 40

retirement home beds, will be the first in Canada to provide multilingual health care.

Central believes its new nursing home will be of special comfort for the elderly. Research, it says, has shown that elderly people, especially those who are ill, tend to revert to their native tongue. In the face of this, and the shortage of nursing home beds in Toronto, Suchocka says the home will be filling a void.



# Celebration '86 rolls into Metro Toronto

Celebration 86 arrives in Toronto for three concerts, Saturday Nov. 1 at 4 pm, and 8 pm, and Sunday Nov. 2 at 7 pm. The Saturday shows are at Earl Haig Secondary School in Willowdale (100 Prince Ave.) and the Sunday show is at Sir John A. McDonald C.L. (2300 Pharmacy at Finch).

The concert of Caribbean Music composed by Father Richard Ho Lung of Kingston, Jamaica, will be performed by the group, "Friends of Father Ho Lung."

Proceeds from Celebration 86 go to community development projects run by the brothers of the poor and sponsored by the Jamaican Self-Help Organization of Peterborough.

As well as the three concerts in Toronto, the group will perform in Peterborough on Nov. 7 and 8 at St. Peter's Auditorium.

For tickets and more information contact the JCA offices at 535-4476 or the Jamaican Self-Help Organization at 491-1142 or 299-4057.



Fr. Richard Ho Lung (centre) will be in Toronto for a series of concerts to help Jamaica's poor.

## Westcott responsible for pulling together Aid Program

From page 4  
and radio and television arts. He worked for Ontario Hydro and several newspapers before moving to Toronto where he began working for the now defunct Telegram, which he left to work for the Conservative Party leader and then Premier of Ontario, Leslie Frost.

He became the Executive Assistant to Minister of Education Bill Davis in 1963 and in 1965 took the position of Executive Assistant in the Department of University Affairs. Westcott is credited for the original idea for the "Science Centre" and in 1965 was made an honorary citizen of Florida.

In 1969 he received an award presented each year by the Ontario Educational Association to the one person felt to have made the greatest contribution to education in the province. In 1971 he was appointed Executive Director of the Office of the Premier with rank of Deputy Minister.

In 1977 he was honoured with an award in recognition of his efforts to raise money for underprivileged children. He is a legal guardian and he and his family adopted a Vietnamese refugee family of eight in December, 1980. In 1981 he was awarded the Bene Merenti Medal of Good Merit by Pope John Paul for his work in the Caribbean.

Shortly after his appointment as Metro police chairman last year, he formed a committee of officers on the force from parts of the Caribbean to get their support for the Ontario Government Caribbean Aid Program.

Westcott, an avid skier and swimmer, has also had his pictures and stories published in major magazines and newspapers in Canada in recent years. The U.S. consulate in Toronto held a month-long exhibit of 200 of his photo-

graphs, and a number of his prints have been on display in the CN Tower and at Columbus Centre. He is also an amateur painter and for years some of his work hung in Parliament Buildings in Toronto.

Westcott is also a member of The Royal Canadian Military Institute, the United States Naval Institute and the Canadian Institute of Strategic Studies. He and his wife Virginia, grandparents of three, live in Scarborough. It seems over-achievement is a trait Westcott has successfully managed to pass onto his nine children.

One of his three daughters is New Zealand's top TV reporter and after two years has received an award which is "the equivalent to the Academy Awards," Westcott said. Before going to New Zealand she worked for the CBC in Vancouver where she helped to break the Olson murder case.

Another daughter is the first woman to become a seaman in Ontario. It was something she had to fight for, Westcott said. She has sailed the oceans and lakes, has had an article published about her in National Geographic and has reached her accomplishments with only a high school diploma. The mother of a 5-year-old, she is now expecting twins. Westcott's third daughter went directly from high school to the Lottery Corporation, where she has been successfully ever since.

Westcott's eldest son is the executive director for the Ontario Wine Council and another is with the Toronto Transit Commission. His 21-year-old son is a business reporter for the Toronto Sun, a position which started as a summer job.

Eva Smith, Westcott's long-time neighbour and a Jamaican Canadian Association member, describes him as "an average, practical person." Smith, for whom The Eva Smith Bursary is named, has lived on the same street as Westcott since 1962.

"He didn't appear to be a special person," Smith says. Their children grew up together, played together and on occasion Westcott would help her to get summer jobs.

Smith, a Jamaican immigrant, has been with the JCA since it began and has been recognized for her many years of work on committees, such as the education and social committees.

"I have never given up working with young people," she said. "I'm convinced they are our future." Smith explains if adults don't invest their time to work with them then there is no future. "It's essential that we invest our time with them." The Eva Smith Bursary was formed on this belief and one qualification for recipients is that they are committed to carrying this on she said.

Westcott, a down-to-earth, pleasant individual says the Ontario Government Caribbean Aid Program "is limping along." But the success of this 22-year old program between Ontario and the Caribbean Commonwealth—which has never been entered into by any written agreement or pact—is proving by its achievements that it's doing more than simply "limping along."

And Westcott, a grayish-white haired, easy-going individual, is the man responsible for pulling it all together over the years and bringing hope to people in countries where life can often seem hopeless.

## JCA needs more members to meet goal

BY WINNIE GREEN

The membership committee extends greeting to all members and friends of the J.C.A. Our goal for 1986 was to double our membership. Although we have had a steady flow of new members, we are still a little ways from this goal. Those of you who read and enjoy our paper but have not taken out or renewed your membership please complete and mail the application form you find in this issue of In-Focus.

If your address or phone number has changed—or if you have not been hearing from us please give us a call at 535-4476 or drop us a line. We want to know where you are and to keep in touch.

A J.C.A. bowling group has been recently organized. Our first meet is Nov. 7 at 8 pm at Dufferin Mall. We also plan to have informal social activities at the centre afterwards. If you are interested please call the office or call 281-8433 and leave your name and

number. We will get in touch with you as soon as possible.

Remember the J.C.A. Centre is helping to build our sense of community. You can play your part by participating in any number of programs we have e.g. education, health, seminars, youth activities, seniors activities, brunches, socials, etc.

Remember also, that you are welcome to submit any articles or comments you might have about the organization or our newspaper.

## SOUND IDEA

in CONCERT  
Saturday, Nov. 22, 8 p.m.

Minkler Auditorium  
1750 Finch Ave. E.  
(Seneca College Campus)

Admission: \$10 per person  
For tickets and information call:  
495-8325 or 265-6613

Sound Idea has recently returned from a 10-day fundraising tour of Jamaica and dey Hot! Hot! Hot!

## Rental Units Wanted!!!

Have a place to rent to students and employed youth?

Needed:  
Apartments, Rooms, Basement Units

Please contact: Bev Laidley or  
Yvulan Walters At: Caribbean Youth Program, 2885 Jane St., Suite 12A, 636-8367

Trade # E-1674

## ELECTRICIAN

FOR ALL KIND OF INSTALLATIONS  
DOMESTIC AND COMMERCIAL

CALL:  
HERB

PHONE 869-8431

## CARIBBEAN IMMIGRANT SERVICES

DESIGNED TO PROVIDE  
INFORMATION, ORIENTATION  
AND SETTLEMENT SERVICES FOR  
IMMIGRANTS WITH LANDED STATUS  
OR A MINISTER'S PERMIT  
FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT  
EVERTON CUMMINGS AT  
535-4476  
Jamaican-Canadian Association

Employment and  
Immigration Canada



## Black inmates get raw deal

From page 3

base. He can either choose isolation or get protection by acquiescing to homosexuality—being a "bumbo".

Jones recommends, based on his experience with inmates, that the prisoner mind his own business as much as possible and try to develop power blocs with other minority groups as well.

With few variations, Jones thinks that the situation is applicable right across Canada for blacks.

"Even though the conference is not about assigning blame, somebody has to be blamed," he said. "The reality is that violence against blacks is condoned by whites—both fellow prisoners, guards and administrators. Blacks need advocates in the system."

The conference was organized and developed by the Black Inmates and Friends Assembly (BIFA) and examined a number of issues including special needs of black inmates, black young offenders, police and community relations, racism in the justice system and delivery of culturally sensitive services to combat racism in prison.

According to Bev Folkes, conference co-ordinator, one of the most encouraging aspects of the conference was the turnout of officials from the Ministry of



Rocky Jones

Correctional Services, Correctional Services of Canada, Metro Police, Ontario Human Rights, Race Relation Division and other government bodies—"people who hopefully can help to make some real changes."

Folkes was further encouraged by the large turnout (the Senate Chambers and workshops were packed) and the fact that "people spoke to some of the real needs and recognized the facts surrounding black inmates."

The conference was attended by more than 40 agencies, organizations and community groups.

Laura Mueller, another BIFA organizer, saw the conference as

an opportunity to collect data for research and resource and to

"sensitize the system to the very real and alarming situation that exist." She was especially impressed with the range of recommendations that came out of the workshops and plenary session. These include:

- Making cultural sensitivity training for staff mandatory.
- Pressuring the Government to make system adhere to Human Rights code.
- Promoting dialogue and understanding within prison groups.
- Educating authorities about the nature of the black extended family so they can be more sensitive regarding prison visits.
- Making authorities aware of some of the special needs of black inmates—food, hair products, music, etc.
- Providing community support network for inmates eg. more initiatives like BIFA.
- Developing a fair and representative complaints management system.
- Developing mechanism for getting black inmates to participate in development of policy affecting them.

**BIFA addresses the needs of black inmates in the Penal System and offers supportive counselling, pre-employment training, cultural material and family support services. The office phone number is 653-6018.**

## Keeping educational bursaries in perspective

BY ANTHONY HENRY  
PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER  
CARIBBEAN-CANADIAN  
YOUTH ASSOCIATION

Over the past year we in the black community have seen a proliferation of Education Bursaries aimed at encouraging academic excellence among black youth. We have seen the Harry Jerome Awards become a veritable institution in our community. In addition to this we now have the Eva Smith Bursary, the Harry Gairay Scholarship and the John Brooks Scholarship.

We also have educational awards offered by other groups such as the United Achievers of Brampton, the Toronto-Sydney Association, the Canadian Caribbean Excelsior Fraternal Association and the Jamaican Canadian Association.

While the trend is laudable and deserves our continued support we should not, as people become too caught up in the glitz and glamor, or the political and social sexiness associated with awards functions to the detriment of the real issues in the education of black youth. The intent of this article is to re-emphasize from the point of view of one of the organizations promoting educational bursaries why we do so.

For the Caribbean-Canadian Youth Association (CCYA) we see the Eva Smith Bursary and other bursaries, on the one hand, as rewarding the hard work and academic discipline of black youth in the school system. We think it is important to offer encouragement especially when this may not be forthcoming from peers or from home. However, an even more important role of bursaries is to focus the minds of more black youth on the absolute necessity of a post secondary education.

In the CCYA we focus on the education of black youth because we see the systematic streaming of black youth into level 4 programs and the consequent low self esteem and low achievement of these young people as detrimental to us as a people in this society. Level 4 programs essentially stream our young people into the lower paying, subordinate segment of the labor market. While there is nothing wrong with earning an honest living in whatever field one chooses, it is unjust for our young people to be over represented in these (level 4) programs as is currently the case. We recognize that we cannot all be managers or all occupy the upper echelons of the labor force. Level 4 limits the options and the marketability of our young people, many of whom should not be there in the first place. As a community this is one of the more pressing issues that we should be constantly vigilant about.

We in the CCYA recognize that there is a certain degree of scepticism about the benefits of higher education in our community. It is important however that we remain as competitive or even more competitive educationally in order to make it in this society. We have to encourage more people to take Sciences, French, Mathematics and Computer Science. If our young people are not computer literate or proficient in French in the next few years then they will be denied many opportunities. Therefore, the aim of stressing higher education is not to create an educational elite, but rather to encourage black youth to function with confidence in an increasingly complex and technological society.

We stress education not only because we want black youth to be competitive but because we believe it will help them to understand

the system better. Finally we believe a significant component of education for black youth should entail curricula that enables them to understand themselves better. Black youth must be taught about our past as a people and our contributions as a people. Our community will have to continue to find mechanisms (eg. after school/ weekend classes) to instill these

From page 2

our celebrities, folks. They are products of our community. We need them and they need us. We need to gather and fellowship with each other from time to time. It gives us strength and it gives them strength to know that they belong to a community that supports them wholeheartedly. Invitations for this event will be on their way to you shortly. Be sure to respond quickly as there are limited seats. Admission will be by tickets only and these will have to be purchased in advance. There will be no tickets on sale at the door. We hope to see you then.

**Membership Continues to Grow**  
We are pleased at the continued growth of the membership of the Association. Old members, however, are not as diligent as they should be in renewing their annual memberships and even less diligent in making their required contributions to the Building Fund. I would like to gently remind you that this is our individual obligation and responsibility to come up with the funds to pay for this building and the day-to-day operations of the association. I am beseeching you again, please, before the end of the year to send

## JCA Upcoming Events

Sunday, November 23  
Sunday, December 7  
Sunday, December 21  
Wednesday, December 31  
For information, tickets and update please contact the office at 535-4476. Please clip and save.

Alvin Curling Brunch

J.C.A. Quarterly Meeting

Children's Christmas Party

Annual New Year's Eve Ball

## Advice for Jamaicans returning home

A Jamaican returning to the island after living abroad for some years is allowed to bring in, duty free, his personal and household effects. However, these must have been in his/her possession and use for a reasonable time. The goods may be sent either two months before or after the arrival of the returning resident. **GOODS MUST BE COLLECTED BY THE PERSON RETURNING.**

Items exempt from Customs Duty include reasonable quantities of apparel—used clothing (no specified amount); new clothing (small quantities allowed); articles of personal adornment; toilet requisites; instruments and tools to be used for purposes of his/her profession, trade, occupation or employment, provided they have been in possession of and in *bona fide* use for a reasonable period.

Household effects include all normal furniture and appliances such as refrigerator, stove, washing machine, dryer, one television set, one video and stereo set plus kitchenware and utensils. The emphasis is on possession and use of articles. They must have been in the possession of and in the use of the owner for more than six months. Any new articles **WILL NOT** be exempt from duty.

values in our young people. It is only by developing true appreciation of their past and our accomplishments as a people that black youth will begin to develop the necessary self-confidence and pride to function in this system without feeling the need to ape Michael Jackson or Prince.

In short, we in the CCYA believe Educational Bursaries are important in terms of the development of our community. Educational awards do deserve the support they have been getting from the community to date. We do believe that our community has a responsibility to encourage, educate and instill pride in our youth. Bursaries represent a part of the solution to the crisis in the education of black youth—lest we forget.

## From the President's Desk

in your Special Annual \$100 Building Fund Assessment. This I am happy to announce, is Charitable Donation which is tax deductible. Please do it. Thanks.

1987 to Be a Banner Year

The year 1987 promises to be a banner year for the JCA and Jamaicans generally. It will be the 25th Anniversary of the formation of this association as well as the 25th Anniversary of the emergence of Jamaica as an independent country. We plan to celebrate in a very big way. A number of Jamaican organizations—clubs and associations will co-ordinate their major activities and promote some special events to highlight the achievements of Jamaicans in this country over the past 25 years. One of the things we propose to do is to publish a commemorative booklet or magazine to document our presence here. I am now making an appeal to all of you who may have some historic documents, photographs or other notable mementos in your possession that may help us with this publication to please get in touch with Paul Katfele at the JCA right away because we will be starting to work on this very soon. Your co-operation is invited.

**Coming Events**  
The third quarterly meeting of the JCA will be held on Sunday, Dec. 7, 1986. You should plan to attend this meeting. The nominating committee will be selected at this meeting. This is the committee that selects candidates who will be the officers of the JCA in the coming year. New faces and bodies are needed. Please make yourself available to serve the association. You are solely needed.

The Children's Christmas Party will be held on Sunday, Dec. 21, 1986. This has always been enjoyable for the entire family and especially for the children in our community. The numbers seem to grow and grow with each passing year. We are therefore asking for some help this year with donations of gifts and toys or money to purchase toys and other treats for the children. You may want to check with the company for whom you work. They may be willing to contribute some things to help make our Christmas Party even more pleasant for the children.

Enough said for now. I look forward to seeing you at the next function or meeting. Remember you the members are the most important part of this organization. Your association needs you.